

[Type here]

## **Living Right Side Up in an Upside-Down World**

### **Understanding Biblical Paradox**

*The purpose of this series is to understand that we live in a world that has been turned upside down by sin and Satan and that living for the true Kingdom will look very different than what the world thinks.*

Matthew 23:1-12 -- You must be humble to be great.

“The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”

#### **What does the world think about greatness?**

“Greatness is planning out a life where everything you do is geared towards the ideal version of what you want and making you happy. I honestly believe so deeply that greatness, whether it’s in the self or what you achieve, is all about being happy. So that means, if you’re not doing something that is gearing you towards being happy, you’re probably not going to live a good life.”

“Just be yourself. Just staying true to yourself.”

“Greatness is being the hero in your story. And if you’re doing the best to do that, then that’s greatness.”

1. The world views greatness as the exaltation of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Satan tempted Adam and Eve to be their own \_\_\_\_\_. Genesis 3:1-6

Pride is the deadliest of all sins because it’s at the root of all other sins. Whenever we sin, we are asserting that we know better than God.

“Human beings are driven by a constant need to elevate our status. Our pride offends God because He humbles Himself to love and care for us every day.”

#### **What does the Bible say about greatness?**

“The greatest among you shall be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”

##### **1. The Bible views greatness as living a life of humility.**

What is true biblical humility? Humility is understanding who we are compared to who \_\_\_\_\_ is.

Psalms 8:3-4 ESV “When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?”

[Type here]

Romans 3:23 ... “For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God”

Romans 12:3 NLT ...” Don’t think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us.”

Humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less.

**2. The Bible views greatness as living a life that \_\_\_\_\_ others.**

Philippians 2:3-4 ESV “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others”

The thought of considering others first is \_\_\_\_\_ to human beings. It doesn’t make sense to us in our sin nature.

**3. The Bible views greatness as living a life that exalts \_\_\_\_\_.**

2 Corinthians 10:17-18 ESV “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.” For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends.

John the Baptist said, “He must increase, and I must decrease”. That should be the theme of our walk with Christ.

**Jesus is the perfect example of true greatness!**

A. Jesus humbled Himself to \_\_\_\_\_ us

Mark 10:45 ESV “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

B. Jesus humbled Himself to \_\_\_\_\_ for us

Philippians 2:8 ESV “And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross...”

C. Jesus is the greatest paradox of greatness because He knew who He was!